(d) reasons for not taking disciplinary action and for not shifting controversial staff to other Division?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA KUMAR JENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The irregularities pointed out in the news report and the Vigilance report mainly pertain to cheating the customer by disputing the denomination of the currency note, short supply of sold items, shortage/excess of articles and money, manipulation in price tags indicating higher value from lower price, concealment of foreign exchange, recovery of excess amount, lack of supervision and mismanagement.

(c) Necessary action on the reports submitted by Vigilance Division from time to time is taken in accordance with the extant rules.

(d) wherever considered necessary, the disciplinary action is taken against the officers found guilty. Similarly, based on the facts/merits of the case, the concerned staff members are shifted to other Divisions.

Disinvestment of ITDC Shares

2314. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since taken a decision on disinvestment of ITDC's shares;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Commission had suggested detailed discussion with ITDC staff and signing of tripartite agreement between Government, new management and the employees to prevent unrest and labour unrest;

(c) if so, the progress made in this regard as on date;

(d) whether Government are seriously considering to have a tripartite agreement as suggested in the report with concerned employees; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA KUMAR JENA): (a) and (c) to (e) No final decision has been taken by the Govt. so far on disinvestment of ITDC's shares.

(b) Yes, Sir.

गुजरात में केन्द्र सरकार विस्तृत पर्यटन परियोजना

2315. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे** क्या **पर्यटन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या हाल ही में गुजरात सरकार के केन्द्र सरकार को एक विस्तृत पर्यटन परियोजना प्रस्तुत की है ;

(ख) उक्त परियोजना की मुख्य बातें क्या है ;

(ग) क्या सरकार का प्रस्ताव राज्य में एक सक्षम और विस्तृत पर्यटन उद्योग का गठन करके उसे रोजगारोन्मुखी बनाने का है ;

(घ) राज्य में पर्यटन उद्योग को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए सरकार और अन्य सरकारी संस्थाओं द्वारा क्या कदम उठाने का विचार है ; और

(ङ) मूलभूत सुविधाएं उपलब्ध कराने के लिए क्या कदम उठाये गये हैं ?

संसदीय कार्य मंत्री तथा पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री श्रीकान्त जैना) : (क) और (ख) राज्य सरकार के परामर्श से, केन्द्रीय पर्यटन विभाग ने वर्ष 1997-98 के दौरान वित्तीय सहायता हेतु निम्नलिखित परियोजनाओं को प्राथमिकता दी है :

क्रम सं.	परियोजना
1.	नालासरोवर में पर्यटक परिसर
2.	धोलावीरा में पर्यटक सुविधाएं
3.	अदेसर में मार्गस्थ सुख सुविधाएं
4.	भुज में पर्यटक स्वागत केन्द्र
5	पटना में रानीबाव का सौंदर्य किरण
6.	शाही पैकेज सूचना काउंटर
7.	अंतर्राष्ट्रीय पतंग उत्सव और नवरात्रि उत्सव

(ग) व (ङ) पर्यटन का व्यापक विकास हासिल करने के उद्देश्य से राज्य सरकार ने नई पर्यटन नीति और कर लाभों को शामिल करते हुए कई प्रोत्साहन घोषित किए हैं । राज्य सरकार ने क्षेत्र विकास योजना भी तैयार की है तथा पर्यटन सेक्टर में निजी निवेश को आकर्षित करने के लिए कार्यवाई की गई है ।

Lifting of Restrictions on Tourism in the N.E. region

2316. SHRI TARACHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to lift the restrictions on tourism in North East region to boost tourism;

(b) if so, details thereof with names of States to be benefited with this move;

(c) whether Government propose to launch some additional schemes to attract domestic tourists to sight-seeing places of Assam; and

(d) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA KUMAR JENA): (a) to (d) In order to boost tourism in the North Eastern Region, restrictions have completely been lifted from Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura since May, 1995. The proposals made by other States of the North East Region for relaxation of restrictions are under examination in consultation with the concerned agencies.

The steps taken to encourage tourism in the North Eastern Region include emphasis on development of infrastructure, human resource development and wide publicity of tourist attractions of the region. Department of Tourism has also identified Guwahati, Kaziranga Shillong-Tawang as a travel circuit for intensive and integrated development.

For the development of tourism in in Assam, Department of Tourism in consultation with State Government has identified 11 projects estimated at Rs. 219 lakhs for Central Financial Assistance during 1997-98.

Setting up of five-star and Heritage Hotels by ITDC

2317. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether I.T.D.C. have decided to set up a few more new five-star and heritage hotels to expand existing ones;

(b) whether such move will affect hotel business of I.T.D.C.; and

(c) if so, steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA KUMAR JENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The construction/reconstruction/expansion of 5-Star Hotels by ITDC would and new destinations in the Ashok Group or Hotels, enable ITDC to exploit high potential of prime/strategic locations, provide competitive edge and more number of hotel rooms which will enhance profitability of ITDC.

(c) ITDC's 9th Five Year Plan include plan scheme for construction/reconstruction of the following 5-Star hotels:

1. Construction of a 100-room, 5-Star hotel at Chandigarh.

2. Reconstruction of the existing 205-room, 3-Star Lodi Hotel into a 310-room, 5-Star Deluxe Suite Hotel.

In addition, it also envisages expansion of Laxmi Vilas Palace Heritage Grand Hotel, Udaipur and Kovalam Ashok Beach Resort.